

Title 2: Agriculture and Commerce

Part 903: MSWCC Cost Share Programs

Part 903 Chapter 1: Cost Share Programs Rules and Procedures

Rule 1.1. The Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Cost Share Program provides financial assistance to land owners and land operators implementing selected soil and water conservation practices. The program may be available to all eligible landowners and land operators. It is administered at the local level by soil and water conservation district commissioners according to rules promulgated by the Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. § 69-27-309*

Rule 1.2. The purpose of the Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Cost Share Program is to reduce soil erosion to an acceptable level, improve water quality and improve wildlife and woodland resources by encouraging the use of soil and water conservation practices through financial assistance.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. § 69-27-3*

Rule 1.3 Description of Commission. The Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Committee was established by the Mississippi Legislature in 1938 and later reorganized the agency as the Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission. The primary purpose of the Commission is to assist soil and water conservation districts. Each district is operated by a board of commissioners (three (3) elected and two (2) appointed). The Commission conducts elections in each district, certifies the elected commissioners and makes appointments. Commissioners are elected and appointed for a three (3) year term.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. § 69-27-2 (1972)*

Rule 1.4 Authority for Cost Share Program. The Commission is granted the authority to administer a cost share program for the State of Mississippi. Authority to administer a cost share program in each soil and water conservation district in Mississippi is granted by these rules and regulations.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. § 69-27-301 (1972)*

Rule 1.5 Definition of Terms

- A. ACP - Agricultural Conservation Program which provides cost share payment administered by United States Department of Agriculture, ASCS.
- B. Allocation - Funds set aside for a soil and water conservation district to use.
- C. Applicant - Any landowner or operator that has requested cost share money by completing the proper form.
- D. Appropriation - Funds appropriated by the Mississippi Legislature to the Commission for

use on the cost share program.

- E. Case File - A record assembled and maintained in a folder by the district for each applicant.
- F. Categories - Those titles assigned to a group of practices according to the purpose for which they are installed.
- G. Certifying Technician - A qualified employee of the District, Soil Conservation Service, Mississippi Forestry Commission, or the Department of Wildlife Conservation.
- H. Commission - The Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission.
- I. Commissioner - An elected or appointed member of the Soil and Water Conservation District Board.
- J. Complaint - A written, signed document appealing a decision of the district.
- K. District - A governmental subdivision of the State and a public body, corporate and political, organized, for the purpose, with the powers and subject to the restrictions hereinafter set forth.
- L. District Cooperator - A landowner or operator that has a signed farmer cooperative agreement and has been approved by the district.
- M. District Plan - A plan made by the district showing the priority of practices for cost share utilization.
- N. Excessive Erosion - Erosion exceeding the tolerable limits.
- O. Land Operator - Any person, firm or corporation, other than the owner, who shall be in possession of any lands lying within a soil and water conservation district whether as leaseholder, renter, tenant, or otherwise.
- P. Landowner - Any person, firm or corporation who shall hold a legal or equitable title to any lands lying within a soil and water conservation district.
- Q. MFC - Mississippi Forestry Commission.
- R. Obligated Funds - Funds that are approved and set aside for cost share payment.
- S. Conservation Plan - A record of landowner's or operator's land use(s) and conservation treatment decisions for a field or farm.
- T. Practice Description - A description of each approved practice showing primary purpose, description, where applicable, component parts and maintenance requirements. Secondary benefits may also be included.
- U. Practice list - A list of approved practices by priorities, practice name and number.
- V. Practice Specification - A description of each approved practice showing how it will be installed.
- W. Program Year - Fiscal year (July 1 - June 30) for which the funds were appropriated.
- X. Soil Erosion Control Practices - Those practices for which the primary purpose is reducing erosion.
- Y. USDA, NRCS - United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service.
- Z. Water Conservation Practices - Those practices for which the primary purpose is to store surface water or increase infiltration.
- AA. Wildlife Habitat Improvement - Those practices for which the primary purpose is to preserve or improve wildlife habitat.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. §§ 69-27-1 (1972), 69-27-1 (1972)*

Part 903 Chapter 2: Program Administration

Rule 2.1 Commission and Districts. The soil and water conservation district will administer the local cost share program. A budget request will be prepared annually reflecting the need by practice. This information will be used by the commission in preparing its budget.

Each district will prepare a plan showing priorities. This plan will be sent to the Commission no later than June 1 prior to the fiscal year being funded (ex., July 1, 2011, to June 30, 2012, is fiscal year 2012). The district plan can be amended to change priorities by contacting the Commission. No district will receive cost share funds without a plan. (Refer to Exhibit 1)

The Commission will notify each district in April preceding program year for which funds have been requested of the anticipated allocation. Each district submitting a plan will receive notification of the exact allocation from the Commission by August 1. The district shall accept requests for cost share assistance at any time. Obligations for cost share assistance will be made after notification of allotment has been received by the district. Funds are considered obligated when the application has been approved for funding by the district and the applicant notified. After funds are obligated, they will remain obligated regardless of the funds that become available from any other cost share programs.

If a district fails to obligate all of the allocation by November 1, the unobligated amount will be withdrawn and reallocated to other districts by the Commission.

The district will review obligated fund registers each six (6) months to determine why the case has not been certified complete. When it is found that obligated funds will not be used by the applicant, the funds should be withdrawn in writing and re-allotted by the district.

When the practice is completed, the participant will use Form MCSP-2a to report practice completion to the district. For practices that require onsite technical assistance to apply, the technician will certify on form MCSP-2a that the practice does or does not meet standards and specifications. The district will execute the form and send to the Commission who will process payment.

The district will establish both an average cost and maximum cost for each component of all practices each year. The average cost will be used to obligate funds. Payment will be made based on documented actual cost. The landowner or operator must furnish documentation of actual cost. In no case, will payment be made above the maximum cost set by the district. A landowner or operator may not receive more than \$3,500.00 cost share funds in any one program year. The district may cost share in the same field or on the same practice in which ACP cost share is used. However, the cost share rate cannot be exceeded. When an applicant receives or requests cost share funds to apply a practice from two services or programs, the cost documents (receipts) must specifically identify the component parts and cost for which payment is being requested from each program. The maximum amount of both ACP cost share and district cost share may be used in the same year.

The Commission will prepare cost share rates for all practices. These will be reviewed periodically.

The Commission will allow districts to group two or more landowners or operators together where practices benefit each. The district may allow each member of the group to earn the maximum amount.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. §§ 69-27-9, 69-27-311*

Rule 2.2 Technical Assistance. The Mississippi Forestry Commission may furnish technical assistance on all forestry practices, tree planting and control burning. The Department of Wildlife Conservation may furnish technical assistance for practice installation based on the cooperators conservation plan. The Natural Resources Conservation Service may furnish technical assistance on all practices.

The Commission and districts are authorized to employ such professional and clerical assistance and obtain such supplies and equipment as needed to implement this program.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. §§ 69-27-9, 69-27-305*

Rule 2.3 Appeals and Reviews. A landowner or operator who wishes to appeal a decision of the district may request a review by the district. Appeals to the Commission may be made by the landowner, operator, or district following the initial review.

When a landowner or operator wishes a review, a request must be made in writing. The commissioners shall schedule a meeting to review the complaint. This shall be an informal hearing.

In those cases where the landowner or operator is not satisfied with the decision of the district, he/she may appeal to the Commission. The landowner or operator must make the appeal in writing within thirty (30) days after the district review. The Commission will accept oral testimony at a hearing during the next scheduled Commission meeting and either affirm, modify or reverse the district's ruling.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. § 69-27-9*

Part 903 Chapter 3: General Guidelines

Rule 3.1 Eligibility for Cost Share Assistance.

- A. Land Qualifications. All land in Mississippi may be eligible for cost share assistance provided it is owned or leased by an individual, group, or association or owned by the State of Mississippi or political subdivision of the State of Mississippi. Federal lands not leased will not qualify for cost share assistance.
- B. District Involvement. All soil and water conservation districts may be eligible for participation in the cost share program. Participation by districts is voluntary. To be

approved for receipt of cost share funds, a district must indicate its interest by submitting a budget request and a plan showing priority of practices to the Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission. (Refer to Exhibit in back of this section.)

- C. Landowner or Land Operator Eligibility. A landowner or land operator is eligible for cost share assistance provided he/she is a cooperater with the soil and water conservation district and has a conservation plan by the local soil and water conservation district on at least part of the land that receives on-site benefit by the practice. The conservation plan will identify the field(s) where the practice(s) is/are installed.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. § 69-27-9*

Rule 3.2 Control of Funds. The funds authorized for cost share assistance will be controlled by the Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission. Each year, after receiving budget requests from the districts, the Commission will make the allotments to the districts based on available funds. Even though a district is allotted funds, the funds will remain in the State treasury in the name of the Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission.

The districts will obligate allotments by the approval of cost share applications. In no case may a district approve more applications for cost share assistance than the total amount of funds allotted.

Each district receiving an allocation of cost share funds will maintain a ledger showing the amount of the allocation received by the district from the Commission, a list of obligations (approved applications) and amount of each, and amount of un-obligated funds available. This general ledger for cost share allocations must be maintained in addition to the case files maintained on each applicant. A new general ledger must be begun for each allocation (which will generally be one for each year, July 1 - June 30). See form MCSP-3.

Each district will submit to the Commission a report summarizing the general ledger on a quarterly basis (October 1, January 1, April 1, and July 1).

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. §§ 69-27-9, 69-27-309*

Rule 3.3 Eligible Practices and Cost Share Rates. A list of all eligible practices approved for cost share payment appears at the end of Part 903. This list of eligible practices contains practice definitions, purpose, where applicable, specifications, component parts, and maintenance requirements. This list should be used as a guide for determining practice eligibility. Practices that are not included on this list are not eligible for cost sharing. If the landowner or operator applies the practice before it is approved by the district, the practice will not be eligible for cost share funds. Included with the list of eligible practices is a list of cost share rates for each practice. Cost share rates will be set annually by the Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission. Variances in cost share rates cannot be made by districts.

The participant in the cost share program may receive funds to reapply a practice where the failure of the practice was beyond his control such as adverse weather conditions. The soil and

water conservation district commissioners will make decisions as to whether to provide these funds. The basis or justification for decision should be documented in the minutes of the board of commissioners meeting.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. § 69-27-309*

Rule 3.4 Costs To Be Shared. The component parts of each practice will be the basis for cost sharing. The technician will determine which of the component parts that are eligible for cost share assistance are needed. Each district will determine the average cost of applying each eligible approved application. In determining the cost share payment when the practice is certified complete, the landowner or land operator will be reimbursed on documented cost.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. § 69-27-315*

Rule 3.5 Practice Maintenance. All practices installed must be maintained in good condition for the time specified in the list of eligible practices. The application form contains a maintenance agreement statement signed by the applicant. If found to be in noncompliance with the maintenance agreement, the recipient of cost share payment may be required to refund all or part of the cost share payment received based on the following table:

<u>Year</u>	<u>15 Year Practice</u>	<u>10 Year Practice</u>	<u>5 Year Practice</u>
1	100%	100%	100%
2	100%	90%	80%
3	95%	80%	50%
4	90%	50%	0%
5	85%	40%	0%
6	70%	30%	0%
7	60%	20%	0%
8	50%	10%	0%
9	40%	5%	0%
10	30%	0%	0%
11	20%	0%	0%
12	15%	0%	0%
13	10%	0%	0%
14	5%	0%	0%
15	0%	0%	0%

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. § 69-27-311*

Rule 3.6 Performance Maintenance Requirement. The practice will be maintained in a workable manner so as to accomplish the original intent for which the practice was installed. The NRCS and MFC will make a 5% annual spot check for maintenance of each practice applied with cost share funds. The same procedures, forms, etc., that are used to make spot checks for other

programs will be used. Each practice will remain on the list for potential spot checking for its life span as shown for the practice.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. §§ 69-27-9, 69-27-307*

Rule 3.7 Establishing Priorities. Each district will establish priorities of practices. This priority ranking will serve as the basis for approving eligible applications. By June 1 each year, the district will submit to the Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission the priority rankings of practices for approval. During August, the district will approve applications for those practices with the highest priority. If funds remain unobligated after the approval of applications containing practices of the highest priority, the district will approve applications containing practices of the second highest priority. This process will continue until the district's allocation has been obligated or until all eligible applications have been approved. If funds remain after all applications have been approved, the district will approve additional applications until November 1. On November 1, any unobligated funds will be withdrawn by the Commission for redistribution to other districts. For this reason, it is in the best interest of the district to encourage early application since applications received after the end of October will probably not be approved until the following year. It is important to remember that applications may be accepted at any time although they will not be approved until unobligated funds are available. See MCSP-1 for example of setting priorities by a district.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. § 69-27-9*

Rule 3.8 Cost Share Rates. At no time will cost share rates for the Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Cost Share Program exceed rates for the same practice in other cost share programs. The current cost share rates for eligible practices are as follows:

<u>Soil Erosion Control</u>		<u>%</u>
SEC-1	Terraces	60
SEC-2	Field Borders	60
SEC-3	Grassed Waterways	60
SEC-4	Conservation Tillage (No-Till)	60
SEC-5	Water & Sediment Control Basins	60
SEC-6	Establishment of Permanent Vegetation	60
SEC-7	Critical Area Planting	60
SEC-8	Tree Planting	60
SEC-9	Grade Stabilization Structure	60
SEC-10	Strip Cropping Systems	60
SEC-11	Reduced Tillage	60
SEC-12	Cover & Green Manure Crops	60
SEC-13	Pasture & Hayland Planting	60
SEC-14	Streambank & Shoreline Protection	60
SEC-15	Chiseling and Subsoiling	60
SEC-16	Heavy Use Area Protection	60
SEC-17	Forest Land Erosion Control System	60

SEC-18	Prescribed Grazing	60
SEC-19	Nutrient Management	60

<u>Water Conservation</u>	<u>%</u>
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WC-1	Irrigation Land Leveling	60
WC-2	Irrigation System, Tailwater Recovery	60
WC-3	Irrigation Water Conveyance Pipe Line	60
WC-4	Irrigation Storage Reservoirs	60
WC-5	Establishment of Permanent Vegetation	60
WC-6	Tree Planting	60
WC-7	Ponds	60
WC-8	Animal Waste Control Facilities	60
WC-9	Diversions	60
WC-10	Livestock Pond Renovation	75

<u>Wildlife</u>	<u>%</u>
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W-1	Field Borders	60
W-2	Filter Strip	60
W-3	Prescribed Burning	60
W-4	Wildlife Upland Habitat Management	60
W-5	Wildlife Wetland Habitat Management	60

<u>Water Quality</u>	<u>%</u>
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WQ-1	Integrated Crop Management	60
WQ-2	Fencing	60
WQ-3	Trough or Tank	60
WQ-4	Agrichemical Mixing Center	60
WQ-5	Structure for Water Control	60
WQ-6	Buffer Zone	60
WQ-7	Check Dam	60
WQ-8	Concrete Grid & Modular Pavement	60
WQ-9	Constructed Wetland	60
WQ-10	Detention Basin	60
WQ-11	Lined Waterway	60
WQ-12	Parking Lot Storage	60
WQ-13	Paved Flume	60
WQ-14	Rock Outlet Protection	60
WQ-15	Slope Drain	60
WQ-16	Sub Surface Drain	60
WQ-17	Water Bar	60
WQ-18	Retention Basin	60
WQ-19	Silt Fence	60
WQ-20	Permanent Seeding	60

WQ-21	Stream Crossing	60
WQ-22	Chemical Container/Used Oils-Lubricants Recycling	0
WQ-23	Cattle Feed & Waste Management Facility	60
WQ-24	Well Decommissioning	60

Two or more individuals may install a "group" practice where the practices benefit each. Applications for group practice must be made by each individual participating. The maximum amount of cost share may be allowed to each applicant.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. § 69-27-311*

Part 903 Chapter 4: Cost Share Procedures

Rule 4.1 Overall Procedures.

- A. The District will submit a cost share plan that includes:
 - I. Overall objectives;
 - II. Listing of practices to be applied by priority and amount to be applied (goals);
 - III. Maximum cost for each component part of each practice;
 - IV. Amount of cost share funds needed to accomplish goals;
 - V. Action to be taken to implement the program.
 - VI. The plan should be submitted to the Commission by June 1 each year.
Procedures for developing a cost share plan can be found as exhibit one at the end of Part 903.
- B. The Commission will notify the district of the amount of cost share funds allocated to it by August 1 each year.
- C. Each landowner/operator that requests cost share assistance will submit an application (Form MCSP-2).
- D. Each application will be recorded on MCSP-4. (Summary of MCSP Requests)
- E. Each technician and District will complete application (Form MCSP-2).
- F. Technician will provide needed conservation planning assistance.
- G. The district will notify the applicant by letter that the application has or has not been approved. If the practice was approved, 2 copies of form MCSP-2a (Practice approval and payment application) will be sent with the letter. The letter will provide instructions as to what the participant must do after practice is installed.
- H. The district will enter the obligated amount of cost-share funds on form MCSP-3. (Allocation Balance Ledger)
- I. Technician will provide needed "on-site" technical assistance to apply the practice.
- J. After the practice is installed and the applicant has completed and returned both copies of form MCSP-2a, and cost documents, the technician and the district will complete their portion of the form.
- K. The district will send the original copy of form MCSP-2a and cost documents to the Commission.
- L. The Commission will process the request for payment.
- M. The Commission will send payment with a copy of Form MCSP-2a to the participant. A copy of a letter of transmittal will be sent to the district.

N. The district will complete Form MCSP-3.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. §§ 69-27-9, 69-27-313*

Rule 4.2 Request for Funding and Practice Priority (MCSP-1). As a basis for determining the areas in which the district sees the greatest need as well as a basis for approving applications for cost share assistance, each district must determine the priorities of practices to be funded within the district. The practices must be listed and follow the order assigned priority by category. Form MCSP-1 can be found at the end of Part 903.

- A. Name of district.
- B. Fiscal year. (Note: Fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011, and ending June 30, 2012, would be the 2012 fiscal year.)
- C. Date form completed by district.
- D. Practice code. (Note: It is not necessary to list all practices that are eligible for cost share.)
- E. Name of practice.
- F. Amount or extent of practice (acres, no. feet, etc.)
- G. Total estimated cost for all practices. Use average cost.
- H. Total funds requested by district.
- I. Signed by district chairperson.
- J. Funding level approved by commission.
- K. Certifying signature. (To be completed by commission)

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. §§ 69-27-9, 69-27-307*

Rule 4.3 Cost Share Program Application (MCSP-2). Before cost share assistance can be completed, a landowner or operator must submit an application on form MCSP-2. It is essential that all information and certification requested on this form be supplied. This form is located following Part 903. The form should be completed as follows:

- A. Fiscal year (July 1 - June 30) of application. To be completed by district.
- B. Applicant's name.
- C. Applicant's mailing address.
- D. Applicant's telephone number.
- E. Applicants social security number.
- F. Date application is submitted.
- G. Application number. This is a consecutive numbering system beginning with the district's two digit number, a hyphen, and followed by the consecutive three digit number, i.e., 001, 002, 003. Each district should use their two digit prefix. A list of district numbers is located at the end of Part 903.
- H. SWCD cooperator. (If no is checked, the applicant is not eligible.)
- I. Landowner's name.
- J. District name.
- K. Applicant's description of conservation and/or environmental problem to be solved, such as, erosion, water shortage, and water pollution.

- L. Enter practice number such as SEC-1 and WC-7.
- M. Enter practice title and component parts that are eligible for cost sharing. For vegetative practices the component parts may be shown and columns C, D, & E filled in at any time.
- N. For other practices this will be done after the required on site investigation is made.
- O. When the component parts consist of too many items of purchases which cannot be shown because of space provided, an attached sheet may be used to show the detailed information. In all cases the information should be shown before the SWCD Commissioner signs the application and before practice approval is sent to participant.
- P. If applicant does not fill in, enter the extent of c/s requested (units).
- Q. Enter the extent approved by the SWCD, including both the units and amount for each component part.
- R. Enter the percent (%) cost-rate approved by the commission.
- S. Enter the maximum cost share (\$) approved by the SWCD.
- T. Enter the number of years the practice is to be maintained as set for the practice.
- U. Enter date as agreed to by applicant. Time should be considered in case funds will need to be reallocated.
- V. Applicant sign and date.
- W. 21 and 22 Technician will check yes or no, sign and date.
- X. 23, 24, and 25 SWCD Commissioner will check yes or no. Sign and date.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. §§ 69-27-9, 69-27-307*

Rule 4.4 Practice Approval and Request for Payment MCSP-2a). In order to receive cost sharing funds, form MCSP-2a must be properly executed using the following guidelines. This form is located following part 903.

- A. 1 through 12 are the same as form MCSP-2.
- B. 13. Enter practice title, component parts that are eligible for cost sharing and cost share rate.
- C. 14. If applicant does not fill in, enter the extent of c/s requested (units).
- D. 15. Enter the extent approved by the SWCD (units).
- E. 16. Enter the cost/unit in column D1 and the total cost (unit cost X extent approved) in column D2.
- F. 17. Enter the maximum cost share (\$) approved by the SWCD.
- G. 18. SWCD Commissioner sign and date before issuing approval to applicant.
- H. 19. Enter the extent performed by component parts.
- I. 20. Enter cost share earned to nearest whole dollar.
- J. 21 and 22 the participant checks "yes" or "no".
- K. 23. Participants certification for practices that do not require on-site technical assistance and sign.
- L. 24 and 25 is filled in by technician.
- M. 26 and 27 the technician check "yes" or "no" for practices that required on site technical assistance and sign.
- N. 28 and 29 SWCD Commissioner record the amount of cost share funds earned, sign and date.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. §§ 69-27-9, 69-27-307*

Rule 4.5 Procedures for Processing Forms MCSP-2 & MCSP-2a.

- A. The applicant with assistance from a member of the district staff will complete form MCSP-2 for each practice. The applicant will complete the form through applicant's signature except for columns C, D, & E.
- B. The technician will make field examination to determine the need and practicability and amount of soil loss or water conservation.
- C. The technician will record findings on form MCSP-2. He/she will sign and date for MCSP-2.
- D. For practices that the applicant can apply without additional on site assistance the technician will record component parts of the practice in column B and the amount in column B1.
- E. For other practices that are needed and practical to apply, the technician will provide on-site technical assistance to determine the component parts of the practice that are needed and the extent or amount for each part. This information will be recorded in columns B and B1.
- F. The SWCD Commissioners will fill in columns C, D, and E, complete the application, sign and date.
- G. The SWCD Commissioner will sign in the "approved by SWCD" column and date, for practices that do not require on site technical assistance to apply. Send two (2) copies of Form MCSP-2a, "Practice Approval and Payment Application", with a letter instructing the applicant what he/she must do when the practice is applied. Participant will be instructed to fill in column F for each component part shown in column B and return it to the district office.
- H. For practices that required on site technical assistance to apply, send one (1) copy of Form MCSP-2a with instructions to the applicant. The technician will make final check to determine if practice meets standards and specifications and fill in column F for each component part shown in column B. Complete his/her portion for form, sign and date.
- I. The applicant will notify the district office when the practice has been installed.
- J. The SWCD Commissioner will complete form MCSP-2a, sign and date and send the original copy along with cost information to the Commission for processing.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. §§ 69-27-9, 69-27-307*

Rule 4.6 District Allocation Balance Ledger (MCSP-3). Each district receiving an allocation of cost share funds must maintain a balance ledger (MCSP-3) to insure no more funds are delegated than the amount available. As an application is approved for cost share funding, the average amount of the practice will be subtracted from the district's current balance. This will provide a current running balance of the district's available funds for obligation. It is important that this ledger be kept current on a daily basis. This form is located at the end of Part 903.

- A. Name of district.
- B. Fiscal year.
- C. Page number.

- D. Date of approved application.
- E. Practice priority number.
- F. Application number.
- G. Applicant's name.
- H. Landowners name.
- I. Debit or credit to allocation. Approved applications are subtracted from the balance; original allocations of funds to district, reallocation of funds from commission, or application previously approved which are withdrawn are added to balance.
- J. Balance available for obligation.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. §§ 69-27-9, 69-27-307*

Rule 4.7 Summary of MCSP Request (MCSP-4). All applications received by the district should be entered on the Summary of MCSP Requests form (MCSP-4). They should be entered as received and each time the commissioners meet to approve additional applications, all the applications entered here that have been recommended and certified will be approved in order of practice priority and then date of application until balance of application is obligated. This summary also serves as a tracking system to identify outstanding service needs. These forms are located following Part 903. The form should be completed as follows:

- A. Fiscal year.
- B. District name.
- C. Practice priority number.
- D. Applicant's name.
- E. Application date.
- F. Application number.
- G. Practice number.
- H. Practice name.
- I. Application meets eligibility requirements. (Y=yes; N=no)
- J. Initialed by technician if practice installation is recommended.
- K. Initialed by technician if practice installation is not recommended.
- L. Check only when commissioner approved obligated funds.
- M. Installation of practice certified complete and according to specifications.
(Y=yes; N=no)
- N. Check when payment notice received from commission.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. §§ 69-27-9, 69-27-307*

Rule 4.8 Amendment 1 of the Cost Share Program Handbook. The "Cost Share Program" handbook that is used to implement the Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Cost Share Program will be used to implement the EPA Cost Share Land Treatment Program (Section 319 Funds) with the following exceptions:

- A. The best management practices and definitions are shown on Attachment 1. The best management practices that are eligible for cost share are shown on Attachment 2.
- B. There is no limit on the amount of cost share funds that a participant can receive

annually.

- C. The cost share rate for all eligible practices is 60% federal funds and 40% local funds. The component parts that are eligible for cost share are set forth in each practice write up in Section 500. (Exception: For EPA 319 funded projects land preparation will be considered a component part and will be included in the total cost of applying the BMP.) In addition, the value of land taken out of production will be considered a component in the installation of structural practices only.
- D. If a participant established a BMP at 100 % his/her cost, this cost can be included to meet 20% of the local cost of another eligible cost share BMP. A minimum of 20% of the cost of eligible BMP's must be in cash contributions. In no instance will a participant receive cost sharing in an amount greater than the cost of implementing a BMP.
- E. The 40% contribution may be considered for a single BMP or an entire farm basis. At the time a cost sharing BMP is applied, the participant must have already contributed or will contribute the 40% local cost at that time.
- F. The "worksheet to determine cost sharing" (Attachment 3) will be used for the farm and filed in the conservation plan folder. The cost of the component parts and/or non cost sharing Best Management Practices will be circled when carried out by the participant. This will document the contribution of the participant.
- G. The cost information shown on Attachment 4 will be used unless otherwise approved by the Soil and Water Conservation Commission.
- H. Although required for other BMPs, the determination, cost and use of component parts is not applicable for BMP Conservation Tillage (No-Till) or Reduced Tillage.

File this Amendment and attachments in back of Section 400 "Cost Share Procedures" in the Cost Share Program Handbook. Make notation on the "Administrative Procedures Update Record", Page VI of the Handbook.

Source: *Miss Code Ann. §§ 69-27-9, 69-27-307*

Part 903 Chapter 5: Approved Practice Standard, Specifications Component Parts and Maintenance

Rule 5.1 Approved Practices.

A. Erosion Control

<u>Practice Number</u>	<u>Practice Name</u>	<u>Cost Share Rate</u>
SEC-1	Terraces	60%
SEC-2	Field Borders	60%
SEC-3	Grassed Waterways	60%
SEC-4	Conservation Tillage (No-Till)	60%
SEC-5	Water & Sediment Control Basins	60%
SEC-6	Establishment of Permanent Vegetation	60%
SEC-7	Critical Area Planting	60%

SEC-8	Tree Planting	60%
SEC-9	Grade Stabilization Structure	60%
SEC-10	Strip Cropping Systems	60%
SEC-11	Reduced Tillage	60%
SEC-12	Cover & Green Manure Crop	60%
SEC-13	Pasture & Hayland Planting	60%
SEC-14	Streambank & Shoreline Protection	60%
SEC-15	Chiseling and Subsoiling	60%
SEC-16	Heavy use Area Protection	60%
SEC-17	Forest Land Erosion Control System	60%
SEC-18	Prescribed Grazing	60%
SEC-19	Nutrient Management	60%

B. Water Conservation

<u>Practice Number</u>	<u>Practice Name</u>	<u>Cost Share Rate</u>
WC-1	Irrigation Land Leveling	60%
WC-2	Irrigation System, Tailwater Recovery	60%
WC-3	Irrigation Water Conveyance Pipe Line	60%
WC-4	Irrigation Storage Reservoirs	60%
WC-5	Establishment of Permanent Vegetation	60%
WC-6	Tree Planting	60%
WC-7	Ponds	60%
WC-8	Animal Waste Control Facilities	60%
WC-9	Diversions	60%
WC-10	Livestock Pond Renovation	75%

C. Wildlife

<u>Practice Number</u>	<u>Practice Name</u>	<u>Cost Share Rate</u>
W-1	Field Borders	60%
W-2	Filter Strip	60%
W-3	Prescribed Burning	60%
W-4	Wildlife Upland Habitat Management	60%
W-5	Wildlife Wetland Habitat Management	60%

D. Water Quality

<u>Practice Number</u>	<u>Practice Name</u>	<u>Cost Share Rate</u>
WQ-1	Integrated Crop Management	60%
WQ-2	Fencing	60%
WQ-3	Trough or Tank	60%

WQ-4	Agrichemical Mixing Center	60%
WQ-5	Structure for Water Control	60%
WQ-6	Buffer Zone	60%
WQ-7	Check Dam	60%
WQ-8	Concrete Grid & Modular Pavement	60%
WQ-9	Constructed Wetland	60%
WQ-10	Detention Basin	60%
WQ-11	Lined Waterway	60%
WQ-12	Parking Lot Storage	60%
WQ-13	Paved Flume	60%
WQ-14	Rock Outlet Protection	60%
WQ-15	Slope Drain	60%
WQ-16	Sub Surface Drain	60%
WQ-17	Water Bar	60%
WQ-18	Retention Basin	60%
WQ-19	Silt Fence	60%
WQ-20	Permanent Seeding	60%
WQ-21	Stream Crossing	60%
WQ-22	Chemical Container/Used oils-Lubricants Recycling	0
WQ-23	Cattle Feed & Waste Management Facility	60%
WQ-24	Well Decommissioning	60%

Source: *Miss Code Ann. §§ 69-27-9, 69-27-307*

Rule 5.2 Practice Definition, Purpose, Where Applicable, Component Parts and Maintenance.

A. Soil Erosion Control

I. SEC 1 - Terraces

1. Definition – An earth embankment, a channel or a combination of ridge and channel constructed across the slope.
2. Purpose – Terraces are constructed to reduce erosion damage and improve water quality by intercepting surface runoff and conducting it to a stable outlet at a non-erosive velocity.
3. Where applicable – Cropland subject to erosion from water runoff.
4. Policies:
 - a. Cost sharing is authorized for:
 - i. Terraces and the necessary leveling and filling to permit installation of an effective system.
 - ii. Removal of stone walls or hedgerows if necessary to permit installation of an effective system.
 - iii. Materials and installation of underground pipe outlets and other mechanical outlets.

- iv. Necessary vegetative protective outlets or waterways.
 - v. Converting the present system to a new system ONLY if the present system is not serving its intended conservation purpose. Cost sharing may not be authorized to maintain or if the sole purpose is that of converting because of a change in cropping patterns or equipment used by the farmer.
 - b. A protective outlet or waterway that is installed solely as an outlet for the terrace system and serves no other conservation purpose should be cost shared as a component of this practice. A protective outlet or waterway which, by itself, solves a conservation problem, but also serves as an outlet for a terrace system, should be cost shared under practice SEC-3.
 - c. The system shall be maintained for a minimum of ten (10) years following the calendar year of installation.
5. Specifications – SCS Specification No. 600 will be used.
6. Component parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:
- a. Earth moving
 - b. Pipe (new and used)
 - c. Appurtenances
 - d. Installation of materials (1, 2, & 3)
 - e. Seeds, sprigs or sod
 - f. Fertilizer and
 - g. Lime

II. **SEC 2 - Field Borders**

- 1. Definition – A strip of perennial vegetation established at the edge of a field by planting.
- 2. Purpose – Control erosion, protect edges of fields that are used as turn rows and improve water quality.
- 3. Where applicable – The edge of a cropland field where turn row has a slope that causes erosion.
- 4. Policies:
 - a. Cost sharing is authorized for the establishment of perennial grasses or legumes.
 - b. This practice will be maintained for a minimum of five (5) years.
- 5. Specifications – SCS Specification No. 386 will be used.
- 6. Component parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:
 - a. Seeds, stolens, clippings, sprigs or sod
 - b. Fertilizer
 - c. Lime

III. **SEC 3 - Grassed Waterways**

1. Definition – A natural or constructed waterway or outlet, shaped or graded, and established in suitable vegetation for safe disposal of runoff.
2. Purpose – Provide for the disposal of excess surface water from terraces, diversions, or natural concentrations without causing excessive erosion decreasing water quality.
3. Where applicable – All sites where vegetative protection is required to control erosion from concentrated flow of runoff water and a stable grade and outlet can be provided.
4. Policies:
 - a. Cost sharing is authorized for site preparation, grading, shaping, filling and establishing permanent vegetative cover.
 - b. The cover may consist of sod forming grasses, legumes, mixtures of grasses and legumes or other types of vegetative cover that will provide the needed protection from erosion.
 - c. Close sown small grains or annuals may be used for temporary protection if followed by eligible permanent vegetative cover established by seeding or natural re-vegetation.
 - d. The practice shall be maintained for a minimum of ten (10) years following the calendar year of installation.
5. Specifications – SCS Specification No. 412 will be used.
6. Component parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:
 - a. Grading, shaping and filling
 - b. Seed, sprigs, clippings, stolens or sod.
 - c. Fertilizer
 - d. Lime

IV. **SEC 4 - Conservation Tillage (No-Till)**

1. Definition – A form of planting and tillage that retains protective amounts of residue on the surface throughout the year.
2. Purpose – Demonstrate no-till systems of farming for erosion control and improving water quality.
3. Where applicable – Cropland fields where excessive erosion is a problem.
4. Policies:
 - a. Cost sharing is not authorized on land eroding at "T" value or less, if the practice is installed to control erosion.
 - b. Cost sharing is not authorized if the farmer has already adopted a satisfactory conservation tillage farming system.
 - c. Cost sharing for conservation tillage practice may be approved for no more than three (3) years with the same person.

- d. Sufficient residue must be left from the previous harvest or a temporary cover provided to adequately protect the land until the new planting is able to provide sufficient cover to protect the soil.
 - e. Cost sharing is authorized for:
 - i. Planting directly into old crop residue, annual cover crops, or chemically killed sods.
 - ii. Applying necessary herbicides and insecticides to eliminate the need for tillage. This shall not include herbicides and insecticides normally used in producing the crop.
 - f. All tillage operations must be performed as nearly as practical on the contour or parallel to terraces, except where SWCD in consultation with SCS determines that this is not necessary.
 - g. Chemical used in performing this practice must be Federally, State and locally registered and must be applied strictly in accordance with authorized registered uses, directions on the label and other Federal or State policies and requirements.
 - h. Cost sharing is not authorized for designated conservation use acres.
5. Specifications – SCS Specification No. 329-2 will be used.
6. Components Eligible and Cost Share Rates.
- a. Chemicals and planting - per acre (flat rate) as follows:

i. Cotton.....\$40.00	iii. Corn.....\$23.00
ii. Soybeans...\$25.00	iv. Grain Sorghum...\$23.00
 - b. Annual cover crop seed where applicable. (60%)

V. **SEC 5 - Water And Sediment Control Basins**

- 1. Definition – A short earth embankment or combination ridge and channel generally constructed across the slope and minor watercourses to form a silt or sediment basin.
- 2. Purpose – Trap sediment, reduce erosion and reform the land surface and improve water quality.
- 3. Where applicable – Any field where concentrated runoff is causing erosion that cannot be controlled by vegetation or residue cover alone.
- 4. Policies:
 - a. Cost sharing is authorized:
 - i. For sediment detention such as erosion control dams, de-silting reservoirs, sediment basins, debris basins, or similar structures.
 - ii. For vegetative cover and for leveling and filling to permit the installation of the structure.
 - iii. For installing sediment retention structures on public roadsides only where such structures are essential to solve a farm based pollution or conservation problem.
 - iv. Only if measures will contribute significantly to maintaining or improving soil or water quality.

- b. Consideration must be given to the needs of wildlife when establishing the protective measures.
 - c. The system shall be maintained a minimum of ten (10) years.
- 5. Specifications – NRCS Specification No. 638 and No. 521-B will be used.
- 6. Component parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:
 - a. Earth moving
 - b. Pipe riser, connector bands, anti-seep collars and appurtenances
 - c. Concrete
 - d. Sealer
 - e. Installation of material (1, 2, 3 & 4)
 - f. Seeds, clippings, stolens, sprigs or sod
 - g. Fertilizer
 - h. Lime

VI. **SEC 6 - Establishment of Permanent Vegetation**

- 1. Definition – Establishing long term stands of adapted perennial plants.
- 2. Purpose – Reduce erosion and pollution from agricultural non-point sources.
- 3. Where applicable – Any open field where erosion from the lack of cover is occurring.
- 4. Policies:
 - a. Cost sharing is authorized for minerals and eligible seed.
 - b. Cost sharing is not authorized for:
 - i. Land eroding a "T" value or less.
 - ii. Clearing of rocks or other obstructions from the area to be seeded.
 - iii. Fencing.
 - iv. Converting land from a stand of merchantable or partially merchantable timber or pulpwood to a grass or legume cover.
 - c. The acreage seeded must be protected from grazing by domestic livestock until the stand is well established.
 - d. Cost sharing shall be limited to the minimum minerals and seed(s) needed to establish adequate cover to control erosion.
 - e. Adequate vegetative cover shall be maintained for five (5) years.
- 5. Specifications – NRCS Specification No. 512 will be used.
- 6. Component parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:
 - a. Seed, clippings, stolens or sod
 - b. Sprigs and planting
 - c. Fertilizer
 - d. Lime

VII. SEC 7 - Critical Area Planting

1. Definition – Planting vegetation on highly erodible or critically eroding areas.
2. Purpose – Control heavy erosion from water and improve water quality.
3. Where applicable – Open land where erosion cannot be controlled with special effort in land preparation.
4. Policies:
 - a. Cost sharing is authorized:
 - i. For measures needed to stabilize a source of sediment, such as grading, shaping and filling, the establishment (including minerals) of grasses (including filter strips) trees or shrubs, and similar measures that the SWCD determines are practical for the solution of the problem.
 - ii. Only if the measures will significantly reduce erosion and maintain or improve the quality of water in a stream, lake, pond or other water source.
 - iii. For measures performed on public roadside only where such measures are essential to solve a farm based pollution or conservation problem.
 - b. Consideration should be given to wildlife and enhancing the appearance of the area when establishing the protective measures.
 - c. The acreage shall be maintained for minimum of five (5) years for herbaceous vegetation and fifteen (15) years for woody plants following the calendar year of installation.
5. Specifications – NRCS Specification No. 342 will be used.
6. Component parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:
 - a. Herbaceous vegetation
 - i. Smoothing and shaping
 - ii. Seeds, sprigs, clippings, or sod
 - iii. Fertilizer
 - iv. Lime.
 - b. Woody plants
 - i. Cost of seedlings and planting

VIII. SEC 8 - Tree Planting

1. Definition – Set tree seedlings in the soil.
2. Purpose – Provide long time cover for erosion control and improve water quality.
3. Where applicable – Any open field where excessive water erosion is occurring.
4. Policies:
 - a. Cost sharing is authorized for the establishment of a plantation that will provide both

- forest product and improved protection from wind or water erosion.
- b. Cost sharing is not authorized for fencing, firebreaks, fuel breaks, fire lanes or roads.
- c. Cost sharing is not authorized for planting orchard trees, for plantings for ornamental purposes, or for Christmas tree production.
- d. Planting must be protected from destructive fire and destructive grazing.
- e. Chemicals used in performing this practice must be Federally, State, and locally registered and must be strictly applied in accordance with authorized uses, directions on the label, and other Federal or State policies and requirements.
- f. Consideration must be given to preserving and improving the environment.
- g. The practice shall be maintained for a minimum of ten (10) years following the calendar year of installation or establishment.

5. Specifications – NRCS Specification No. 612 will be used.

6. Component parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:

- a. Seedlings
- b. Planting

IX. SEC 9 - Grade Stabilization Structures

1. Definition – A structure to stabilize the grade or to control head cutting in natural or artificial channels.

2. Purpose – Control erosion by reducing grade and to improve water quality.

3. Where Applicable – The concentration and flow velocity of water requires a structure to stabilize the grade in channels or side inlet laterals where the over fall from the field level or side inlet channel bottom is 1.5 feet or more unless an active erosion problem exists that cannot be controlled by vegetative means.

4. Policies:

- a. Cost sharing is authorized for vegetative cover for the structure and other areas directly associated with the installation and successful operation of the structure.
- b. The structure will be maintained for a minimum of ten (10) years.

5. Specifications – NRCS Specification No. 410 will be used.

6. Component parts eligible for 60% cost share:

- a. Earth moving - fill and excavation
- b. Pipe and appurtenances
- c. Concrete
- d. Installation of materials (1, 2, & 3)
- e. Seeds or springs
- f. Fertilizer

X. SEC 10 - Strip Cropping Systems

1. Definition – Growing crops in a systematic arrangement of strips or bands to reduce water erosion. The crops are arranged so that a strip of grass or close growing crop is alternated with a strip of clean tilled crop or fallow or a strip of grass is alternated with a close growing crop.
2. Purpose – Establish a contour or field strip cropping system to protect soil from wind or water erosion and to reduce the pollution of water, air, or land from agricultural non-point sources.
3. Where applicable – Cropland subject to erosion or soil movement that constitutes a pollution hazard.
4. Policies:
 - a. Cost sharing is limited to establishment of the systems.
 - b. On acreage devoted to row crops, one of the following must apply:
 - i. The crop stubble or residue must be left on the land during the winter.
 - ii. A winter cover crop must be established.
 - iii. Adequate protective tillage operations must be performed.
 - c. For contour strip cropping systems, cultural operations must be performed as nearly as practical on the contour.
 - d. Cost sharing is not authorized for repeating any approved measures under this practice with the same person the same acreage.
 - e. The system shall be maintained for minimum of five (5) years following the calendar year of installation.
5. Specifications – NRCS Specifications "Strip Cropping, Contour" (acres) No. 585 and Strip Cropping, Field No. 586 will be used.
6. Component Parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:
 - a. Seeds
 - b. Fertilizer
 - c. Lime
 - d. \$10.00 flat rate for the acres in the strip cropping systems that are not seeded to perennial vegetation and benefited by the strips.

XI. SEC 11 - Reduced Tillage

1. Definition – A form of planting and tillage (other than no-till) that leaves at least 30% of the soil surface covered after planting.
2. Purpose – Demonstrate reduced tillage systems of farming for erosion control and improving water quality.
3. Where applicable – Cropland fields where excessive erosion is a problem.

4. Policies:

- a. Cost sharing is not authorized on land eroding at "T" value or less, if the practice is installed to control erosion. It is not necessary to use soil loss rates to determine eligibility if the practice is being installed primarily to improve water quality.
- b. Cost sharing is not authorized if the farmer has already adopted a satisfactory conservation tillage farming system.
- c. Cost sharing for conservation tillage practice (reduced tillage) may be approved for no more than three (3) years with the same person.
- d. Sufficient residue must be left from the previous harvest or a temporary cover provided to adequately protect the land until the new planting can provide sufficient cover to protect the soil.
- e. Cost sharing is authorized for:
 - i. Chisel plowing with other limited operations.
 - ii. Plow - plant
 - iii. Light tillage with implements that do not invert the soil.
 - iv. Application of necessary herbicides to reduce the need for tillage. This shall not include herbicides normally used in producing the crop.
- f. All tillage operations must be performed as nearly as practicable on the contour or parallel to terraces, except where the SWCD in consultation with NRCS determines that this is not necessary.
- g. Chemicals used in performing this practice must be Federally, State, and locally registered and must be applied strictly in accordance with authorized registered uses, directions on the label, and other Federal or State policies and requirements.
- h. Crops qualifying for cost-share under this practice shall be limited to corn, cotton, soybeans and grain sorghum.
- i. Cost sharing is not authorized for designated conservation use acreage.

5. Specifications – NRCS Specification No. 329 will be used.

6. Component parts that are eligible for cost-share:

- a. Chemicals - 60% of cost per acre not to exceed \$19 per acre.
- b. Annual cover crop seed where applicable. (60%)

XII. SEC 12 - Cover and Green Manure Crop

- 1. Definition – A crop of close growing grasses, legumes, or small grain grown primarily for seasonal protection and soil improvement. It usually is grown for one (1) year or less, except where there is permanent cover as in orchards.
- 2. Purpose – Control erosion during periods when the major crops do not furnish adequate cover; add organic material to the soil; and improve infiltration, aeration and tilth.
- 3. Where applicable – Cropland; certain recreation and wildlife areas; and orchard, vineyard and small fruit areas.

4. Policies:
 - a. Cost sharing is authorized for the establishment of close growing grasses, legumes or small grains.
 - b. Cost sharing is not authorized for chemical herbicides used to kill vegetation prior to planting.
5. Specifications – NRCS Specification No. 340 will be used.
6. Component parts eligible for cost-share:
 - a. Seed (60%)
 - b. Planting

XIII. SEC 13 - Pasture and Hayland Planting

1. Definition – Establishing and reestablishing long-term stands of adapted species of perennial, biennial, or reseeding forage plants. (Includes pasture and hayland renovation. Does not include grassed waterway or outlets on cropland.)
2. Purpose – Reduce erosion, to produce high quality forage, and to adjust land use.
3. Where applicable – Existing pasture and hayland or on land that is converted from other uses.
4. Policies: Same as for SEC 6 - Establishment of Permanent Vegetation.
5. Specifications – NRCS Specification No. 512-1 will be used.
6. Component parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:
 - a. Seed, clippings, stolens or sod.
 - b. Sprigs and planting
 - c. Fertilizer
 - d. Lime

XIV. SEC 14 - Streambank and Shoreline Protection

1. Definition – Using vegetation or structures to stabilize and protect banks of streams, lakes, estuaries, or excavated channels against scour and erosion.
2. Purpose – Stabilize or protect banks of streams, lakes, estuaries, or excavated channels for one or more of the following purposes:
 - a. To prevent the loss of land or damage to utilities, roads, buildings, or other facilities adjacent to the banks.
 - b. To maintain the capacity of the channel.
 - c. To control channel meander that would adversely affect downstream facilities.
 - d. To reduce sediment loads causing downstream damages and pollution, or
 - e. To improve the stream for recreation or as a habitat for fish and wildlife.

3. Where applicable – This practice applies to natural or excavated channels where the stream banks are susceptible to erosion from the action of water, ice, or debris or to damage from livestock or vehicular traffic. It also applies to controlling erosion on shorelines where the problem can be solved with relatively simple structural measures, vegetation, or upland erosion control practices and where failure of structural measures will not create a hazard to life or result in serious damage to property.
4. Policies:
 - a. Cost sharing is authorized for vegetative cover for the structure and other areas directly associated with the installation and successful operation of the structure.
 - b. The structure will be maintained for a minimum of ten (10) years.
5. Specifications – NRCS Specification No. 580 will be used.
6. Component parts that are eligible for 60% cost-share:
 - a. Earth moving - fill and excavation
 - b. Heavy stone
 - c. Filter blanket
 - d. Installation of materials (1, 2, & 3)
 - e. Seeds or sprigs
 - f. Fertilizer

XV. SEC 15 - Chiseling and Subsoiling

1. Definition – Loosening the soil, without inverting and with a minimum of mixing of the surface soil, to shatter restrictive layers below normal plow depth that inhibit water movement or root development.
2. Purpose – The purpose of this practice is to conserve soil moisture by using mechanical measures that retard runoff, improve water penetration and reduce soil loss.
3. Where applicable – On suitable soils, chiseling is applicable if restrictive layers are less than sixteen (16) inches deep. On suitable soils, subsoiling is applicable if restrictive soil layers are more than sixteen (16) inches deep.
4. Policies:
 - a. Cost sharing for chiseling is authorized on cropland or pastureland where restrictive soil layers (plow pans) are less than sixteen (16) inches deep.
 - b. Cost sharing for sub-soiling is authorized on cropland only where restrictive soil layers (plow pans) are more than sixteen (16) inches deep.
5. Specifications – NRCS Specification No. 324-2 will be used.
6. Components Eligible and Cost-share Rates.
 - a. Chiseling - 60% not to exceed \$5.00 per acre

- b. Subsoiling - 60% not to exceed \$10.00 per acre

XVI. SEC 16 - Heavy Use Area Protection

1. Definition – Protecting heavily used areas by establishing vegetative cover, surfacing with suitable materials, or installing needed structures.
2. Purpose – The purpose of this practice is to stabilize urban, recreation, agricultural, or facility areas frequently and intensely used by people, animals, or vehicles.
3. Where applicable – Urban, recreation, and agricultural areas or other frequently and intensely used areas that require special treatment to protect them from erosion or other deterioration.
4. Specifications – NRCS Specification No. 561 will be used.
5. Components parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:
 - a. Earth moving
 - b. Pipe and appurtenances
 - c. Concrete/ Fly ash
 - d. Geo-textile material
 - e. Gravel or stone
 - f. Installation of materials
 - g. Seeds or sprigs
 - h. Fertilizer and lime

XVII. SEC 17 - Forest Land Erosion Control System

1. Definition – Application of one or more erosion control measures on forest land. Erosion control system includes the use of conservation plants, cultural practices, and erosion control structures on disturbed forest land for the control of sheet and rill erosion, gully formation, and mass soil movement.
2. Purpose – The purpose of this practice is to protect the resource base by reducing erosion and sedimentation and by protecting and improving water quality on forest land disturbed by silvicultural or other activities.
3. Where applicable – Applies to untreated disturbed forest land areas including logging roads, skid roads, and loading areas; buffer or filter strips; slash disposal areas; site preparation; and burned and overgrazed areas.
4. Specifications – NRCS Specification No. 408-1 will be used.
5. Components parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:
 - a. Earth moving; grading, shaping, smoothing
 - b. Pipe and appurtenances

- c. Concrete
- d. Geo-textile material
- e. Gravel or stone
- f. Installation of materials
- g. Seeds or sprigs
- h. Fertilizer and lime
- i. Water bars

XVIII. SEC 18 - Prescribed Grazing

1. Definition – The controlled harvest of vegetation with grazing or browsing animals, managed with the intent to achieve a specified objective.
2. Purpose – This practice may be applied as part of a conservation system to accomplish one or more of the following purposes:
 - a. Improve and maintain the health of the desired plant community.
 - b. Provide or maintain food, cover and shelter for animals of concern.
 - c. Improve or maintain animal health and productivity.
 - d. Maintain or improve water quality and quantity.
 - e. Reduce accelerated soil erosion and maintain or improve soil condition for sustainability of the resource.
3. Where applicable – This practice may be applied on all lands where grazing and or browsing animals are managed.
4. Criteria:
 - a. General criteria applicable for all the purposes stated above.
 - b. Removal of herbage will be in accordance with the production limitation, plant sensitivities and management goals using Section I and II of the NRCS FOTG and other references as guidance.
 - c. Application of this practice will prescribe the rest period, intensity, frequency, duration and season of grazing to promote ecologically and economically stable plant communities that meet client and resource objectives.
5. Policies and Planning Guidelines:
 - a. This practice will be planned and applied by site specific recommendations. Needed documentation includes utilization heights, rest periods, grazing period, grazing sequences, key grazing plants and area.
 - b. Consideration shall be given to wildlife habitat improvement and/or Wildlife Upland Habitat Management as an objective.
6. Specifications – NRCS Specifications No. 528A will be used.
7. Components Eligible and Cost Share Rates:

An incentive payment will be made for documented management practices on the following per acre basis. (Limited to three (3) years)

- a. Cross Fence Planned.....\$11.00
- b. Cross Fence Not Planned.....\$5.00

XIX. SEC 19 - Nutrient Management

1. Definition – Managing the amount, source, placement, form and timing of the application of nutrients and soil amendments.
2. Purpose:
 - a. To budget and supply nutrients for plant production.
 - b. To properly utilize manure or organic by-products as a plant nutrient source.
 - c. To minimize the risk of agricultural non-point source pollution of surface and groundwater resources.
 - d. To maintain or improve the physical, chemical and biological condition of soil.
3. Where applicable – This practice applies to all lands where plant nutrients, either organic or inorganic, and soil amendments are applied.
4. Criteria: General criteria applicable for all the purposes stated above. All criteria listed in NRCS Specification No. 590 shall apply.
5. Policies and Planning Guidelines: Plans and specifications will be in keeping with the above mentioned standard and will describe the requirements for applying the practice to achieve its intended purpose(s), using nutrients to achieve production goals and to prevent or minimize water quality impairment.
6. Specifications - NRCS Specifications No. 590 will be used. **(NRCS Specification 595 “Pest Management” may be followed and applied in conjunction with 590)**
7. Components Eligible for 60% Cost Share:
 - a. Fertilizer
 - b. Lime
 - c. Chemicals

B. Water Conservation

I. WC 1 - Irrigation Land Leveling

1. Definition – Reshaping the surface of the land to be irrigated to planned grade and to improve water conservation.
2. Purpose – Land leveling is done to permit uniform and efficient application of water.
3. Where applicable – Where land is suited for use as irrigated land and soil is deep enough to allow shaping while maintaining sufficient root zone.

4. Policies:
 - a. Cost sharing is authorized only for permanently installed irrigation system.
 - b. Cost sharing is not authorized for:
 - i. Portable pipe, cleaning a ditch, or installations primarily for the farm operator's convenience.
 - ii. Installations to convert an existing sprinkle or overhead system to a gravity system.
 - iii. Restoring a system which has deteriorated due to lack of maintenance during periods of nonuse (such as a rotation cycle for rice crops).
 - iv. Short sections of pipeline used in connection with surface irrigation ditches or canals in crossing roadways, drainage ditches, natural drains, or other obstructions.
 - c. Consideration must be given to the needs of wildlife, preserving or enhancing the appearance of the area, and potential pollution hazards.
 - d. Cost sharing is authorized for land smoothing as the sole component.
 - e. The system must be maintained for a minimum of ten (10) years following the calendar year of installation.
5. Specifications – NRCS Specification No. 464 will be used.
6. Component parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:
 - a. Earth Moving - Reshaping surface

II. **WC 2 - Irrigation System, Tailwater Recovery**

1. Definition – Ability to collect, store and transport irrigation tailwater for reuse in the farm irrigation system.
2. Purpose – Conserve farm irrigation water supplies, improve water quality and water conservation.
3. Where applicable – Where irrigation is performed on sloping lands by surface application.
4. Policies:
 - a. The system must be needed as an integral part of an irrigation system.
 - b. Certifications and guarantees must be furnished prior to installation by vendor for the materials and must certify that the materials meet the required standard and specifications.
 - c. Cost sharing is not authorized for restoring a system which has deteriorated due to lack of maintenance.
 - d. The system will be maintained for minimum of ten (10) years.
5. Specifications – NRCS Specification No. 447 will be used.
6. Component parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:

- a. Earth moving
- b. Concrete

III. **WQ 11 - Lined Waterway**

1. Definition – A waterway or outlet having an erosion-resistant lining of concrete, stone, or other permanent material. The lined section extends up the side slopes to a designed depth. The earth above the permanent lining may be vegetated or otherwise protected.
2. Purpose – Provide for safe disposal of runoff from natural concentrations of flow or from constructed practices without damage by erosion or flooding, where unlined or grassed waterways would be inadequate.
3. Where applicable – This practice applies when any of the following or similar conditions exist:
 - a. Concentrated runoff is such that a lining is needed to control erosion.
 - b. Steep grades, wetness, prolonged base flow, seepage, or highly erosive soils inhibiting vegetation would make the site susceptible to erosion.
 - c. The location is such that use by people or traffic would damage vegetation of vegetated waterways or outlets.
 - d. High value property or adjacent facilities warrant the extra cost to contain design runoff in a limited space.
4. Policies:
 - a. Criteria found in planning and design manual for the control of erosion, sediment and storm water will be used.
 - b. This practice will be maintained for a minimum of ten (10) years.
5. Component parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:
 - a. Earth moving
 - b. Concrete
 - c. Stone
 - d. Seeds, clippings, stolens, sprigs or sod
 - e. Fertilizer
 - f. Lime
 - g. Installation of materials (2 - 6)

IV. **WQ 12 - Parking Lot Storage**

1. Definition – Providing temporary surface storage and controlled release of storm water runoff on paved (impervious) parking areas or within parking lot landscaped islands.
2. Purpose – Reduce the adverse impact of runoff from impervious parking surfaces on receiving waters.
3. Where applicable – This practice applies where portions of large, paved parking lots can

be temporarily used for storm water storage without significantly interfering with normal vehicle and pedestrian traffic. Also applies wherever parking lot landscaped islands are required.

4. Policies:
 - a. Criteria found in planning and design manual for the control of erosion, sediment and storm water will be used.
 - b. This practice will be maintained for a minimum of ten (10) years.
5. Component parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:
 - a. Earth moving
 - b. Concrete
 - c. Pipe and appurtenances
 - d. Seeds, clippings, stolens, sprigs or sod
 - e. Fertilizer
 - f. Lime
 - g. Installation of materials (2 - 6)

V. WQ 13 - Paved Flume

1. Definition – A small concrete lined channel to convey water on a relatively steep slope to a non-erosive release in a stream or waterway.
2. Purpose – Conduct concentrated runoff safely down the face of a cut or fill slope without causing erosion.
3. Where applicable – This practice applies where concentrated storm runoff must be conveyed from the top to the bottom of a cut or fill slope as part of a permanent erosion control system.
4. Policies:
 - a. Criteria found in planning and design manual for the control of erosion, sediment and storm water will be used.
 - b. This practice will be maintained for a minimum of ten (10) years.
5. Component parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:
 - a. Earth moving
 - b. Concrete
 - c. Appurtenances
 - d. Seeds, clippings, stolens, sprigs or sod
 - e. Fertilizer
 - f. Lime
 - g. Installation of materials (2 - 6)

VI. WQ 14 - Rock Outlet Protection

1. Definition – A rock lined apron and flow area at the outlet of a conduit, paved flume, lined waterway, or other flow system to control erosion.
2. Purpose – Prevent scour and erosion at the outlet of a channel or conduit by reducing velocity of flows and dissipating energy.
3. Where applicable – This practice applies where the discharge velocity of a pipe, box culvert, diversion, open channel, or other water conveyance structure exceeds the permissible velocity of the receiving channel or disposal area.
4. Policies:
 - a. Criteria found in planning and design manual for the control of erosion, sediment and storm water will be used.
 - b. This practice will be maintained for a minimum of ten (10) years.
5. Component parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:
 - a. Earth moving
 - b. Concrete
 - c. Pipe and appurtenances
 - d. Seeds, clippings, stolens, sprigs or sod
 - e. Fertilizer
 - f. Lime
 - g. Stone
 - h. Installation of materials (2 - 7)

VII. WQ 15 - Slope Drain

1. Definition – A flexible tubing or conduit extending from the top to the bottom of a cut or fill slope.
2. Purpose – Temporarily conduct concentrated storm water runoff safely down the face of a cut or fill slope without causing erosion problems on or below the slope.
3. Where applicable – This practice applies on cut or fill slopes before permanent storm water drainage structures are installed or before permanent vegetation is established.
4. Policies:
 - a. Criteria found in planning and design manual for the control of erosion, sediment and storm water will be used.
5. Component parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:
 - a. Earth moving
 - b. Pipe and appurtenances
 - c. Installation of materials

VIII. WQ 16 - Sub Surface Drain

1. Definition – A perforated conduit, such as corrugated plastic tubing, tile, or pipe, installed beneath the ground surface to collect and/or convey drainage water to an outlet.
2. Purpose – Improve the soil environment for vegetative growth, reduce erosion, and improve water quality.
3. Where applicable – This practice applies to areas having a high water table where the benefits of lowering the water table or controlling ground water or surface runoff justify installing such a system.
4. Policies:
 - a. Criteria found in planning and design manual for the control of erosion, sediment and storm water will be used.
 - b. This practice will be maintained for a minimum of ten (10) years.
 - c. NRCS Specification No. 606 will also be used.
5. Component parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:
 - a. Earth moving
 - b. Concrete
 - c. Pipe and appurtenances
 - d. Sand and/or gravel
 - e. Installation of materials (2 - 4)

IX. WQ 17 - Water Bar

1. Definition – A ridge of compacted soil or loose rock or gravel constructed across disturbed rights-of-way and similar sloping areas.
2. Purpose – Shorten the flow length within a long sloping right-of-way, thereby reducing the erosion potential by diverting storm runoff to a stabilized outlet or sediment trapping device.
3. Where applicable – This practice applies where there will be little or no construction traffic within the right-of-way. Gravel structures are more applicable to roads and other rights-of-way which accommodate vehicular traffic.
4. Policies:
 - a. Criteria found in planning and design manual for the control of erosion, sediment and storm water will be used.
5. Component parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:
 - a. Earth moving
 - b. Gravel

- c. Seeds, clippings, stolens, sprigs or sod
- d. Fertilizer
- e. Lime
- f. Installation of materials (2 - 5)

X. WQ 18 - Retention Basin

1. Definition – A basin or depression area to temporarily retain storm water on site providing for infiltration, pollution reduction, and downstream water quality improvement.
2. Purpose – Incorporate pollution control and groundwater recharge concepts into the design and construction of storage areas for the percolation of storm water runoff so that the adverse impact of urban type development on receiving waters can be reduced.
3. Where applicable – Applicability of this practice is primarily dependent upon the availability of an adequate site for a retention area or for the creation or modifications of a retention area. The soil and water table conditions must also be such that the system can, within a maximum of seventy-two (72) hours following a storm water event, provide for a new volume of storage through percolation and/or evapo-transpiration
4. Policies:
 - a. Criteria found in planning and design manual for the control of erosion, sediment and storm water will be used.
 - b. This practice will be maintained for a minimum of ten (10) years.
5. Component parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:
 - a. Earth moving
 - b. Seeds, stolens, sprigs or sod
 - c. Fertilizer
 - d. Lime
 - e. Gravel
 - f. Installation of materials (2 - 5)

XI. WQ 19 - Silt Fence

1. Definition – A temporary barrier consisting of a filter fabric stretched across and attached to supporting posts and entrenched. There are two types. The Silt Fence is a temporary linear filter barrier constructed of synthetic filter fabric, posts, and depending upon the strength of the fabric used, wire fence for support. The Filter Barrier is constructed of stakes and burlap or synthetic fabric.
2. Purpose – Intercept and detain small amounts of sediment from disturbed areas during construction operations in order to prevent sediment from leaving the site. To decrease the velocity of sheet flows and low-to-moderate level channel floods.

3. Where applicable – Below disturbed areas where erosion would occur in the form of sheet and rill erosion.
4. Policies:
 - a. Criteria found in planning and design manual for the control of erosion, sediment and storm water will be used.
5. Component parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:
 - a. Synthetic filter fabric
 - b. Burlap
 - c. Posts, stakes and/or wire fencing
 - d. Installation of materials (1 - 3)

XII. WQ 20 - Permanent Seeding

1. Definition – Controlling runoff and erosion on disturbed areas by establishing perennial vegetative cover with seed.
2. Purpose – Reduce erosion and decrease sediment yield from disturbed areas, and to permanently stabilize such areas in a manner that is economical, adapts to site conditions, and allows selection of the most appropriate plant materials.
3. Where applicable – This practice applies to fine graded areas on which permanent, long lived vegetative cover is the most practical or most effective method of stabilizing the soil. Permanent seeding may also be used on rough graded areas.
4. Policies:
 - a. Criteria found in planning and design manual for the control of erosion, sediment and storm water will be used.
 - b. This practice will be maintained for a minimum of ten (10) years.
5. Component parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:
 - a. Seeds, stolens, sprigs or sod
 - b. Fertilizer
 - c. Lime
 - d. Planting
 - e. Installation of materials (1 - 3)

XIII. WQ 21 - Stream Crossing

1. Definition – A travel-way constructed across a stream to allow livestock, equipment, or vehicles to cross with minimal disturbance to the stream ecosystem.
2. Purpose – Prevent or minimize water degradation from sediment, nutrient, and organic loading. To protect the water course from degradation and adverse hydrological impacts. To protect the land from streambank erosion. To provide a means for animals,

equipment, or vehicles to cross a water course.

3. Where applicable – This practice applies to all land uses where an intermittent or perennial water course exists, and livestock are currently crossing the water course.
4. Policies:
 1. The structure shall be maintained for a minimum of ten (10) years.
5. Specifications – NRCS Specification No. 728 will be used.
6. Component parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:
 - a. Earth moving - fill and excavation
 - b. Pipe and appurtenances
 - c. Concrete
 - d. Stone, mulch or gravel
 - e. Geo-textile Material
 - f. Fencing
 - g. Installation of materials (1, 2, 3, & 4)

XIV. **WQ 22 - Chemical Container/Used oils-Lubricants Recycling**

1. Definition – Recycling chemical containers, used oils and lubricants so as to reduce pollution of water, land or air.
2. Purpose – Provide an incentive for landowners or land operators to properly dispose of chemical containers used oils and lubricants in a manner that will prevent degradation of natural resources.
3. Where applicable – All agricultural lands.
4. Policies:
 - a. A one-time per year credit will be allowed for the proper disposal of chemical containers, used oils and lubricants.
 - b. The credit will be based on the cost of transportation **one-way** to a disposal area.
 - c. A credit of 36.5 cents per mile will be given.
 - d. This credit can only be used as match towards another cost shareable BMP applied by the landowner or land operator.

XV. **WQ 23 - Cattle Feed and Waste Management Facility**

1. Definition – A facility to allow for the feeding of cattle in a manner that will allow for the collection, storage, and proper utilization of animal waste.
2. Purpose – Prevent or reduce the pollution of water, land or air by animal wastes.
3. Where applicable – This practice applies to areas on farmland where animal waste from

the farm constitutes a significant pollution hazard.

4. Policies:

- a. This practice is designed to provide a facility for the collection and storage of cattle waste in order to permit the recycling of waste onto the land in a way that will abate pollution that would otherwise result from existing cattle operations.
- b. Cost sharing is limited to preventing or solving the pollution problems where the cattle operation already exists and is part of a total farming operation.
- c. **All necessary permits must be acquired before the facility is erected.**
- d. **All necessary plans, (i.e. Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan, Waste Utilization Plan) shall be developed for the facility.**
- e. The practice shall be maintained for a minimum of ten (10) years following the calendar year of installation.

5. Component parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:

- a. Earth moving - including diversions, ditches or dikes
- b. Pipe and appurtenances
- c. Concrete
- d. Stone, mulch or gravel
- e. Geo-textile material
- f. Fencing
- g. Pressure treated materials
- h. Building materials
- i. Trough or tank
- j. Seed or sprigs, fertilizer and lime.
- k. Installation of materials

XVI. WQ 24 - Well Decommissioning

1. Definition – The sealing and permanent closure of a water well no longer in use.
2. Purpose – Prevent entry of vermin, debris, or other foreign substances into the well or well bore hole; eliminate the physical hazard of an open hole to people, animals or farm machinery; prevent entry of contaminated surface water into well and migration of contaminants into unsaturated zone or saturated zone; prevent the mixing of chemically or physically different ground waters between separate water bearing zones.
3. Where applicable – This practice applies to any drilled, dug, driven, bored, or otherwise constructed vertical water well determined to have no further beneficial use.
4. Policies:
 - a. This practice does not apply to wells that were used for waste disposal, or if evidence of contamination still exists. This practice does not apply to wells that contain contaminant levels that exceed state or federal water quality standards. Treatment of contamination source(s) is required before a well is decommissioned.

5. Specifications – NRCS Specification No. 351 will be used.
6. Component parts that are eligible for 60% cost share:
 - a. Disinfection
 - b. Sealing materials
 - c. Fill materials
 - d. Concrete
 - e. Installation of materials

Source: *Miss Code Ann. § 69-27-307*

Part 903 Chapter 6: Article 7 (New) Soil and Water Conservation Cost Share Program

Rule 6.1 Definitions. The following words shall have the meanings ascribed herein unless the context clearly required otherwise:

- A. "Commission" shall mean the Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission.
- B. "District" or "soil and water conservation district" means a governmental subdivision of the state and a public body, corporate and politic with the powers and subject to the restrictions hereinafter set forth.
- C. "State" means the State of Mississippi.
- D. "Agency of this state" includes the government of this state and any subdivision, agency or instrumentality, corporate or otherwise, of the government of this state.
- E. "United States" or "agencies of the United States" includes the United States of America, the United States Department of Agriculture, and any other agency or instrumentality, corporate or otherwise, of the United States of America.
- F. "Government" or "governmental" includes the government of this state, the government of the United States, any subdivision, agency or instrumentality, corporate or otherwise, of either of them.
- G. "Landowner" or "owner of land" includes any person, firm or corporation who shall hold legal or equitable title to any lands lying within a soil and water conservation district.
- H. "Land operator" or "operator of land" includes any person, firm or corporation, other than the owner, who shall be in possession of any lands lying within a soil and water conservation district whether as lessee, renter, tenant or otherwise.
- I. "Eligible lands" shall mean lands owned or leased by a private individual, group or association, and lands owned by the State of Mississippi or any political subdivision thereof.
- J. "Cost share assistance" shall mean partial financial assistance in such amounts as the commission, in its discretion, shall determine, subject to the limitations as set by the State Soil and Water Conservation Commission.
- K. "Approved practice" means those farming practices or operations that are carried out in a manner that will directly benefit the conservation, development or proper utility of soil and water resources.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. §§ 69-27-1, 69-27-301 (1972)*

Rule 6.2 Administration of program. The Commission shall serve as the administrator of the provisions of this act and shall serve as the disbursing agency for funds to be expended from and deposited to the credit of the Soil and Water Cost Share Program.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. § 69-27-305*

Rule 6.3 Rulemaking powers. The Commission shall adopt and promulgate such rules and regulations as necessary for the implementation of the Mississippi Soil and Water Cost Share Program. The Commission is authorized to conduct public hearings or otherwise seek the advice, counsel and recommendations of interested owners, associations, industrialists or other persons or groups.

Adequate notice of any public hearing must be provided within the general area of the site of the hearing. The commission shall publish such rules and regulations and shall make the same available upon request.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. § 69-27-307*

Rule 6.4 Use of funds appropriated for commission. The commission is authorized to use money appropriated therefore to assist in implementing approved practices on a cost sharing basis on eligible lands in the State of Mississippi.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. § 69-27-309*

Rule 6.5 Implementation of program; recovery of improperly used grants. The commission shall have the following powers and duties to implement the provisions of the Mississippi Soil and Water Cost Share Program:

- A. To determine which approved practices shall be eligible for cost share assistance;
- B. To establish maximum sums and cost share rates which any one eligible landowner or land operator may receive for implementation of an approved practice;
- C. To review periodically the costs of establishing conservation practices and to make such adjustments as, in the discretion of the commission, is necessary.

Upon request of the commission, the Attorney General of the State of Mississippi shall institute proper legal proceedings to recover any or all of the cost share assistance provided an eligible landowner or land operator if the commission shall determine that the landowner or land operator failed to implement any portion of or all of the practice approved by the commission for such landowner or land operator, and if the commission determines that legal proceedings are necessary and proper.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. § 69-27-311*

Rule 6.6 Application for assistance; consideration by commission. Any eligible landowner or land operator who wishes to receive cost share assistance shall file an application with the soil

and water conservation district stating the practice to be implemented. Upon the receipt of an application, the district shall:

- A. Make a need and feasibility determination;
- B. Inform the landowner or land operator of the result of the needs and feasibility study and inform the landowner or land operator as to what practice is approved for installation.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. § 69-27-313*

Rule 6.7 Application to state owned lands. Any agency, department, board, commission or other subdivision of government of the State of Mississippi, or any political subdivision thereof, is authorized to implement an approved practice on any lands owned by such political entity or owned by the State of Mississippi and supervised or managed by such entity. The governing authorities of such entity shall engage the assistance of the county conservation district of the county in which the land is located in the preparation of an application for submission to the district. The district shall treat any such political entity as an individual owner for purposes of considering applications, granting cost share assistance and approving the practice implemented.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. § 69-27-315*

Part 903 Chapter 7: Livestock Pond Renovation Program

Rule 7.1 Program Source and Authority. The Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission administers the Livestock Pond Renovation Program through a cooperative agreement with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Source: *Public Law 109-97, House Report 109-266 at 16*

Rule 7.2 Purpose of Program. The purpose of the Livestock Pond Renovation Program is to enhance the establishment and demonstration of the most technically advanced best management practices (BMPs) relating to the agricultural conservation and use of surface water; to assist in the continued development of education and training opportunities for short and long-term training needs of NRCS, SWCD and conservation partner personnel; to demonstrate cost effective BMPs for the storage and use of surface water for both irrigation of crops and watering sources for livestock.

Source: *Miss Code Ann. §§ 69-27-303, 69-27-305, 69-27-307*

Rule 7.3 Administration. The Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission has developed standards and specifications for a Livestock Pond Renovation best management practice (BMP). Funds are allocated to the Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) each year based upon the number of livestock reported through the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Eligible landowners apply for cost sharing assistance through the SWCDs under this program for the renovation of livestock watering ponds that have become silted in. The cost share rate is 75% not to exceed maximums set by the MSWCC. The specifications for this

program are located in section 506.02. Application and payment request forms used in this program are located at the end of Part 903.

Source: *Miss Code Ann.* §§§ 69-27-303, 69-27-305, 69-27-307

Part 903 Chapter 8: Livestock Nutrient Management Program

Rule 8.1 Program Source and Authority. The Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission administers the Livestock Nutrient Management Program through a cooperative agreement with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Source: *Public Law 109-97, House Report 109-255 at 16*

Rule 8.2 Purpose of Program. The purpose of the Livestock Nutrient Management Program is to enhance the establishment of the most technically advanced best management practices (BMPs) relating to streamside livestock nutrient management; to assist in the continued development of education and training opportunities for short and long-term training needs of NRCS, SWCD and conservation partner personnel; to demonstrate cost effective BMPs for the prevention of livestock nutrient loading in streams.

Source: *Miss Code Ann.* §§§ 69-27-303, 69-27-305, 69-27-307

Rule 8.3 Administration. The Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission has developed standards and specifications for certain BMPs that will contribute to the reduction of nutrient loading to streams from livestock. The BMPs that are eligible for 75% cost share under this program are fencing, stream crossings, trough and tank, water and sediment control basin, animal waste control facility and cattle feed and waste management facility. Eligible landowners apply for cost share assistance through the SWCDs under this program after it is announced each year. Application and payment request forms used in this program are located at the end of Part 903.

Source: *Miss Code Ann.* §§§ 69-27-303, 69-27-305, 69-27-307

Part 903 Chapter 9: Education Enhancement Program

Rule 9.1 Program Source and Authority. The Mississippi Soil and water Conservation Commission administers the Education Enhancement Program through a grant agreement with the Mississippi Department of Education with funds appropriated by the Mississippi Legislature each year.

Source: *Miss Code Ann.* § 69-27-9

Rule 9.2 Purpose of Program. The purpose of the Education Enhancement Program is to provide matching funds to Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) for purchasing equipment that will result in reduced energy costs, reduced soil erosion, improved water quality, improved irrigation water management or will be used for conservation education activities.

Source: *Miss Code Ann § 69-27-9*

Rule 9.3 Administration. The Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission receives requests from the SWCDs each year for equipment they wish to purchase under the program. The Commission approves eligible requests, purchases the equipment and provides it to the SWCDs. Education Enhancement funds are used to pay for 50% of the equipment at the time of purchase. The remaining balance of purchased equipment is paid by the SWCDs through a loan acquired under the Revolving Loan Fund as discussed in Chapter 4.

Source: *Miss Code Ann. § 69-27-9*

Part 903 Chapter 10: Watershed Repair and Rehabilitation Program

Rule 10.1 Program Source and Authority. The Mississippi Watershed Repair and Rehabilitation Cost Share Program is administered by the Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission (MSWCC) through the Soil and Water Cost Share Program. The Legislature may appropriate such funds as it may deem necessary to a special funds for the MSWCC to expend on this program. The MSWCC is authorized to receive and expend any funds appropriated by the federal government for the purposes of this program. The MSWCC has been authorized to receive and expend proceeds from bonds issued under Sections 1 through 14 of House Bill No. 1783 of the 1998 Regular Session.

Source: *Section 1 through 14; House Bill No. 1783 (1998 Regular Session)*

Rule 10.2 Purpose of Program. The purpose of the Watershed Repair and Rehabilitation Cost Share Program is to assist local watershed districts in the repair, rehabilitation or removal of water impoundment structures constructed with financing from the United States of America under Public Law 534 and Public Law 566. A “watershed district” includes and “watershed district, soil and water conservation district, drainage district, flood control district, or water management district authorized by the Mississippi Legislature which has the management responsibility for any Public Law 534 or Public Law 566 water impoundment structure.”

Source: *Public Law 534 and Public Law 566*

Rule 10.3 Administration. The MSWCC and its staff, shall, as often as is practicable, and in accordance with state and federal law, coordinate its watershed structure rehabilitation and repair efforts with the USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service. The Commission provides cost sharing assistance with an accountable sponsor for the repair, rehabilitation or removal of watershed structures. The MSWCC staff determines what board, agency, person, persons or political subdivision shall be considered an accountable sponsor to participate in the cost shared repair or rehabilitation of a watershed structure. In order to be considered for acceptance as an accountable sponsor, the applicant must have the willingness, authority and financial resources (or ability to obtain necessary finances) to maintain the particular watershed structure once the repair and/or rehabilitation has been completed. As a requirement for participation in the Watershed Repair and Rehabilitation Cost Share Program, an accountable sponsor must agree to

submit annually a report containing a summary of the annual inspection of the subject structure and a summary of the revenues and expenses associated with the maintenance of the subject structure. The MSWCC has adopted the following three (3) tiered cost share schedule:

- A. 90% cost share / 10% match
- B. 80% cost share / 20% match
- C. 70% cost share / 30% match

The cost share rate shall be determined by the reference number assigned to the county in which the structure is located. The reference number shall be determined by the total assessed valuation of the county as currently reported to the State of Mississippi State Tax Commission at the time of approval of the cost share application. The reference numbers shall be:

- A. Less than \$60,000,000.00
- B. Greater than \$60,000,000.00 but less than \$120,000,000.00
- C. Greater than \$120,000,000.00

In those watersheds which cross county lines, the cost share rate shall be determined by the lowest reference number of any county in the watershed. An accountable sponsor may use in-kind work, services or materials for its required match. The work, service or materials may be provided by the sponsor or any other entity on behalf of the sponsor. Any form of match provided by, or on behalf of a sponsor which exceeds the required amount may be carried over and used as match on another qualifying structure within the watershed or county. The MSWCC staff is authorized to commit funds from the Mississippi Watershed Repair and Rehabilitation Cost Share Program on any amount up to One Hundred thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) per structure for repair, rehabilitation or removal. Any expenditure of more than One Hundred thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) per structure must receive specific approval of the Mississippi Soil and water conservation Commission.

Source: *Miss Code Ann.* §§ 51-37-3, 69-27-9

GUIDELINES FOR PREPARING A SWCD COST SHARE PLAN

The district is required to submit a cost share plan to the Commission. The following guidelines will be used:

I. Program Objectives

List objectives in general terms that are expected to be accomplished or progress made toward accomplishing through the cost share program. Objectives should relate to the prevention or solution of soil and water conservation problems.

II. Priority Conservation Practices

List the conservation practices according to priority that will make maximum contribution toward accomplishing objectives. It is not necessary to list all practices that are eligible for cost sharing. These will be recorded on Form MCSP-1 (Request for Funding and Practice Priority).

III. Program Goals

List the individual practices and the amount to be accomplished through the cost share program on Form MCSP-1.

IV. Maximum Cost

Show the maximum cost for each component for each practice shown on MCSP-1.

V. Program Funding

Recording on Form MCSP-1 the amount of cost sharing funds needed to accomplish program goals.

VI. Program Implementation

1. Set forth some of the actions to be taken to get farmers and/or operators to participate in carrying out priority practices.
2. List what will be done to inform the general public about the program.
3. State what will be done to evaluate the effectiveness of the program toward obtaining objectives and goals.

IV. F. District Numbers

Adams.	SWCD-01	Leflore	SWCD-42
Alcorn	SWCD-02	Lincoln.	SWCD-43
Amite	SWCD-03	Lowndes.	SWCD-44
Attala	SWCD-04	Madison.	SWCD-45
Benton.	SWCD-05	Marion.	SWCD-46
Bolivar.	SWCD-06	Marshall	SWCD-47
Calhoun.	SWCD-07	Monroe.	SWCD-48
Carroll.	SWCD-08	Montgomery.	SWCD-49
Chickasaw.	SWCD-09	Neshoba	SWCD-50
Choctaw.	SWCD-10	Newton.	SWCD-51
Claiborne	SWCD-11	Noxubee	SWCD-52
Clarke	SWCD-12	Oktibbeha	SWCD-53
Clay	SWCD-13	Panola	SWCD-54
Coahoma	SWCD-14	Pearl River	SWCD-55
Copiah	SWCD-15	Perry	SWCD-56
Covington	SWCD-16	Pike	SWCD-57
DeSoto	SWCD-17	Pontotoc	SWCD-58
Forrest	SWCD-18	Prentiss	SWCD-59
Franklin	SWCD-19	Quitman	SWCD-60
George	SWCD-20	Rankin	SWCD-61
Greene	SWCD-21	Scott	SWCD-62
Grenada	SWCD-22	Sharkey	SWCD-63
Hancock	SWCD-23	Simpson	SWCD-64
Harrison	SWCD-24	Smith	SWCD-65
Hinds	SWCD-25	Stone	SWCD-66
Holmes	SWCD-26	Sunflower	SWCD-67
Humphreys	SWCD-27	Tallahatchie	SWCD-68
Issaquena	SWCD-28	Tate	SWCD-69
Itawamba	SWCD-29	Tippah	SWCD-70
Jackson	SWCD-30	Tishomingo	SWCD-71
Jasper	SWCD-31	Tunica	SWCD-72
Jefferson	SWCD-32	Union	SWCD-73
Jefferson Davis	SWCD-33	Walthall	SWCD-74
Jones	SWCD-34	Warren	SWCD-75
Kemper	SWCD-35	Washington	SWCD-76
Lafayette	SWCD-36	Wayne	SWCD-77
Lamar	SWCD-37	Webster	SWCD-78
Lauderdale	SWCD-38	Wilkinson	SWCD-79
Lawrence	SWCD-39	Winston	SWCD-80
Leake	SWCD-40	Yalobusha	SWCD-81
Lee	SWCD-41	Yazoo	SWCD-82

(For example, the third application received by the Adams County SWCD would be 01-003.)

MCSP-1
Rev. 11-11
MISSISSIPPI SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION
COST SHARE PROGRAM
REQUEST FOR FUNDING AND PRACTICE PRIORITY

(1) _____ SWCD (2) _____ Fiscal Year (3) _____ Date

Priority	Practice Code	Practice Code	Amount	Total Est. Cost
1	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				

Total Funds Requested \$ _____ (8) _____
 _____ (9) _____

Chairperson SWCD

Total Funds Approved \$ _____ (10) _____
 _____ (11) _____

Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission

District_____(1)_____ Fiscal Year_____(2)_____ Page_____(3)_____

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Request Received	Request Served
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[illegible]

MCSP-2
Rev. 11-11
APPLICATION FOR COST SHARING

Year_____ (1)_____ Date of Application_____ (6)_____

Name of Applicant_____ (2)_____ Application Number_____ (7)_____

Address_____ (3)_____ Yes__ (8) __No_____ SWCD Cooperator

Telephone_____ (4)_____ Landowner Name_____ (9)_____

Social Security Number_____ (5)_____ __ (10) __ County Soil & Water Conservation District

Conservation and/or Environmental Problem(11)`_____

Practice No. A	Practice Title and Component Parts B	Extent Requested (Units) B1	Extent Approved (Units) C	Cost-Share Rate% D	Cost-Share Approved* E	F	G
(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)		

I certify that I have used all other cost share payments available to me this year. If approved, I agree to install the practice according to plans and specifications provided to me. I further agree to maintain this practice for as long as I own, lease, or rent this land or for a maximum period of (18) years. If found not to be in compliance with performance or maintenance, I understand that cost share will be denied or refunded. I also agree that I will have the practice installed by _____ (19) _____, 20____ or cost share will be cancelled.

Applicant Signature_____ (20)_____

Date_____

Is this practice needed and practical to apply? Yes__No__ (21) Technician Signature_____ (22) _____
Date_____

Does the applicant meet eligibility requirements? Yes__No__ (23) Are the cost sharing funds approved? Yes__No__ (24)

Commissioner's Signature_____ (25) _____

Date_____

*May change as result of field studies.

MCSP-2a
Rev. 11-11
PRACTICE APPROVAL AND PAYMENT APPLICATION

Year_____

Date of Application_____

Name of Applicant_____

Application Number_____

Address_____

Yes___No___SWCD Cooperator

Telephone_____

Landowner Name_____

Social Security Number_____

___County Soil & Water Conservation District

Conservation and/or Environmental Problem (11)

Practice No.	Practice Title and Component Parts Cost Share Rate____%	Extent Requested (Units)	Extent Approved (Units)	Unit Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	Cost Share Approved (\$)	Extent Performed (Units)	Cost Shares Earned (?)
A	B	B1	C	D1	D2	E	F	G

Approved by SWCD

Date

TOTAL_____

Instructions to participant:

To receive payment for any cost-share earned on this practice, report performance and complete items below. Date and sign certification and file with the district office by the reporting date.

Did you bear all the expenses (except for program cost-sharing) for performing this practice? (If no, report name(s) and address(es) of either person(s) or agency who bore any part of this expense. Also show kind, extent, and value of their contribution.) Yes() No()

During the current fiscal year (July 1 – June 30), have you received or will you receive a cost share payment on this or any other farm for a practice other than on this farm? (If yes,, report name of state or county for each such farm.) Yes() No()

Applicant Signature_____

Date_____

Is this practice needed and practical to apply? Yes___No___

Technician Signature_____

Date_____

I certify that the cost does not exceed the maximum cost for component parts established by the district. I recommend payment in the amount of \$_____

Commissioner's Signature_____

Date_____

Soil Loss (Tons/AC/Yr)			Water Conservation	
Before	After	No. Acres	AC-in/ac Saved	Number Acres

MCSP-2
Rev. 11-11
LIVESTOCK POND RENOVATION PROGRAM
APPLICATION FOR COST SHARING

Program Year _____ Date of Application _____

Name of Applicant _____ Application Number _____

Address _____ Yes ___ No ___ SWCD Cooperator

Telephone _____ Landowner Name _____

Social Security Number _____ ___ County Soil & Water Conservation District

Conservation and/or Environmental Problem (11) ` _____

Practice No. A	Practice Title and Component Parts B	Extent Requested (pond size) B1	Extent Approved (pond size) C	Cost-Share Rate 75% D	Cost-Share Approved* E	F	G
WC-10	Livestock Pond Renovation						

I certify that I have used all other cost share payments available to me this year. If approved, I agree to install the practice according to plans and specifications provided to me. I further agree to maintain this practice for as long as I own, lease, or rent this land or for a maximum period of ___ years. If found not to be in compliance with performance or maintenance, I understand that cost share will be denied or refunded. I also agree that I will have the practice installed by _____, 20___ or cost share will be cancelled.

I also acknowledge that no guarantee is made by any party that this pond will hold water after the renovation is applied.

Applicant Signature _____

Date _____

Is this practice needed and practical to apply? Yes ___ No ___

Technician Signature _____

Date _____

Does the applicant meet eligibility requirements? Yes ___ No ___

Are the cost sharing funds approved? Yes ___ No ___

Commissioner's Signature _____

Date _____

*May change as result of field studies.

Livestock Nutrient
Management Program
#0086.

MCSP-2
Rev. 11-11
LIVESTOCK NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
APPLICATION FOR COST SHARING

Program Year _____

Date of Application _____

Name of Applicant _____

Application Number _____

Address _____

Yes ___ No ___ SWCD Cooperator

Telephone _____

Landowner Name _____

Social Security Number _____

___ County Soil & Water Conservation District

Conservation and/or Environmental Problem(11) ` _____

Practice No. A	Practice Title and Component Parts B	Extent Requested (Units) B1	Extent Approved (Units) C	Cost- Share Rate 75% D	Cost-Share Approved* E	F	G

I certify that I have used all other cost share payments available to me this year. If approved, I agree to install the practice according to plans and specifications provided to me. I further agree to maintain this practice for as long as I own, lease, or rent this land or for a maximum period of ___ years. If found not to be in compliance with performance or maintenance, I understand that cost share will be denied or refunded. I also agree that I will have the practice installed by _____, 20___ or cost share will be cancelled.

Applicant Signature _____

Date _____

Is this practice needed and practical to apply? Yes ___ No ___

Technician Signature _____

Date _____

Does the applicant meet eligibility requirements? Yes ___ No ___

Are the cost sharing funds approved? Yes ___ No ___

Commissioner's Signature _____

Date _____

*May change as result of field studies.

Livestock Nutrient
Management Program
#0087.

MCSP-2a
Rev. 11-11
**LIVESTOCK NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
PRACTICE APPROVAL AND PAYMENT APPLICATION**

Program Year _____

Date of Application _____

Name of Applicant _____

Application Number _____

Address _____

Yes ___ No ___ SWCD Cooperator

Telephone _____

Landowner Name _____

Social Security Number _____

___(10)___ County Soil & Water Conservation District

Conservation and/or Environmental Problem

Practice No.	Practice Title and Component Parts Cost Share Rate _____ 75%	Extent Requested (Units)	Extent Approved (Units)	Unit Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	Cost Share Approved (\$)	Extent Performed (Units)	Cost Shares Earned (?)
A	B	B1	C	D1	D2	E	F	G

Approved by SWCD _____

Date _____

TOTAL _____

Instructions to participant:

To receive payment for any cost-share earned on this practice, report performance and complete items below. Date and sign certification and file with the district office by the reporting date.

Did you bear all the expenses (except for program cost-sharing) for performing this practice? (If no, report name(s) and address(es) of either person(s) or agency who bore any part of this expense. Also show kind, extent, and value of their contribution.) Yes () No ()

During the current fiscal year (July 1 – June 30), have you received or will you receive a cost share payment on this or any other farm for a practice other than on this farm? (If yes,, report name of state or county for each such farm.) Yes() No()

I certify this practice has been completed according to plans and specifications and to the extent shown in Column F. I do hereby apply for payment.

Applicant Signature _____

Date _____

Technician Signature _____

Date _____

I certify that the cost does not exceed the maximum cost for component parts established by the district. I recommend payment in the amount of \$ _____

Commissioner's Signature _____

Date _____

Latitude _____
Longitude _____

Soil Loss (Tons/AC/Yr)			Water Conservation	
Before	After	No. Acres	AC-in/ac Saved	Number Acres

Livestock Nutrient Management
Program #0087.

MCSP-2a
Rev. 11-11
LIVESTOCK POND RENOVATION PROGRAM
PRACTICE APPROVAL AND PAYMENT APPLICATION

Program Year _____ Date of Application _____
 Name of Applicant _____ Application Number _____
 Address _____ Yes ___ No ___ SWCD Cooperator
 Telephone _____ Landowner Name _____
 Social Security Number _____ (10) County Soil & Water Conservation District

Conservation and/or Environmental Problem

Practice No.	Practice Title and Component Parts Cost Share Rate 75%	Extent Requested (pond size)	Extent Approved (pond size)	Unit Cost (\$)	Total Cost (\$)	Cost Share Approved (\$)	Extent Performed (pond size)	Cost Shares Earned (?)
A	B	B1	C	D1	D2	E	F	G

Approved by SWCD _____ Date _____ TOTAL _____

Instructions to participant:

To receive payment for any cost-share earned on this practice, report performance and complete items below. Date and sign certification and file with the district office by the reporting date.

Did you bear all the expenses (except for program cost-sharing) for performing this practice? (If no, report name(s) and address(es) of either person(s) or agency who bore any part of this expense. Also show kind, extent, and value of their contribution.) Yes () No ()

During the current fiscal year (July 1 – June 30), have you received or will you receive a cost share payment on this or any other farm for a practice other than on this farm? (If yes,, report name of state or county for each such farm.) Yes() No()

I certify this practice has been completed according to plans and specifications and to the extent shown in Column F. I do hereby apply for payment.

Applicant Signature _____

Date _____

Practice meets standards and specifications. Yes ___ No ___

Technician Signature _____

Date _____

I certify that the cost does not exceed the maximum cost for component parts established by the district. I recommend payment in the amount of \$ _____

Commissioner's Signature _____

Date _____

GPS Coordinates	
Latitude	
Longitude	

Livestock Nutrient Management
Program #006..